

CROP WEATHER REPORT

Issue: 05-09
Released: 2:00 p.m., MDT, May 9, 2005
For Week Ending: May 8, 2005

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar



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Agricultural Summary

There were 5.0 days suitable for field work during the week. Currently, field work is 82% well underway, 14% just started and 4% haven’t started spring field tillage work yet.

Montana encountered high temperatures mostly in the upper seventies. Harlem and Hardin were tied for the high temperature during the week at 83 degrees. The lows for the State were mainly in the mid teens. Scobey had the low temperature of 6 degrees. There was light precipitation during the week in most areas of the State. The wet spot for the State last week was Polson with 1.23 inches of moisture. Subsoil moisture has improved slightly in some areas of the State. According to the Montana NRCS, stream flows and precipitation were above last year’s average for the month of April, yet mountain snow water contents remain below average at 63 percent of normal.

The weather outlook for the week of May 9 through May 15 is for near normal temperatures and below to near normal precipitation for the State. State normals for temperatures are highs in the upper fifties to upper sixties and lows in the upper twenties to lower forties.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Topsoil Moisture				
Very Short	8	10	40	22
Short	30	26	39	34
Adequate	59	61	21	39
Surplus	3	3	0	5
Subsoil Moisture				
Very Short	29	33	43	35
Short	38	36	37	36
Adequate	32	30	19	28
Surplus	1	1	1	1

Field Work Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Days Suitable for Field Work				
Days	5.0	4.3	6.7	5.2
Field Tillage Work in Progress				
None	4	12	3	n/a
Just Started	14	22	8	n/a
Well Underway	82	66	89	n/a

Field Crops Report

The State received light precipitation in most areas. Reports indicate winter wheat growing conditions are stable in most areas, but some areas continue to be hindered by low temperatures. Russian wheat aphids, army cutworms and brown wheat mite infestations have been reported in a few areas of the State. Durum wheat planting is 52 percent planted and 10 percent of the crop emerged, compared to last year’s 56 percent planted and 13 percent emerged . Barley is 74 percent planted with 23 percent of the crop emerged, behind last year’s 89 percent planted and 57 percent emerged. Oats are 49 percent planted with 17 percent emerged, compared to last year’s 76 percent planted and 30 percent emerged. Corn is 26 percent planted with 1 percent emerged, compared to last year with 39 percent planted and 4 percent emerged.

Crop Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Winter Wheat - Condition				
Very Poor	1	1	15	14
Poor	5	5	26	19
Fair	27	29	39	34
Good	58	44	17	27
Excellent	9	21	3	6

Livestock Report

Eighty-eight percent of the pastures are open for grazing compared to last year’s rating of 84 percent open. Calving and lambing are 95 percent and 88 percent complete, respectively, compared to last year’s 95 percent for cattle and 84 percent for sheep. Twenty percent of cattle and calves and 13 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved to summer ranges.

Range and Pasture Feed Condition

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Very Poor	10	16	23	16
Poor	19	28	31	27
Fair	45	41	29	31
Good	23	13	16	23
Excellent	3	2	1	3

Crop Progress Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Barley				
Planted	74	54	89	67
Emerged	23	10	57	33
Oats				
Planted	49	46	76	50
Emerged	17	10	30	20
Spring Wheat				
Planted	75	58	81	64
Emerged	25	10	41	25
Corn				
Planted	26	8	39	38
Emerged	1	0	4	6
Durum Wheat				
Planted	52	36	56	20
Emerged	10	4	13	4
Winter Wheat				
Boot	3	n/a	6	1

Livestock Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Livestock Grazing				
Open	88	88	84	n/a
Difficult	6	6	6	n/a
Closed	6	6	10	n/a
Receiving Supplemental Feed				
Cattle	53	63	57	n/a
Sheep and Lambs	51	66	54	n/a
Calving Completed	95	92	95	95
Lambing Completed	88	75	84	83
Moved to Summer Ranges				
Cattle and Calves	20	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sheep and lambs	13	n/a	n/a	n/a

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MDT, May 7, 2005 1/

STATION	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION						
	PAST WEEK			Past Week	April 1, 2005 to Date			October 1, 2004 to Date		
	High	Low	Avg.		Total 2/	Normal 3/	%	Total 2/	Normal 3/	%
	Degrees			In.	Inches		Normal	Inches		Normal
NORTHWEST										
Drummond	68	22	46	0.24	1.55	1.42	109	4.06	5.93	68
Hamilton	70	28	51	0.06	1.62	1.45	112	5.04	7.36	68
Kalispell	67	28	50	0.07	1.01	1.68	60	6.35	9.47	67
Libby	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Missoula	70	32	51	0.63	2.75	1.53	180	5.82	7.26	80
Polson	65	30	49	1.23	3.23	1.85	175	7.91	8.28	96
Superior	72	26	54	0.66	2.46	1.61	153	7.53	9.92	76
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
West Glacier	70	31	50	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
NORTH CENTRAL										
Chester	75	14	48	0.00	0.11	1.11	10	M	M	M
Choteau	70	22	48	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Conrad	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cut Bank	70	18	46	0.43	0.93	1.40	66	2.20	3.84	57
Ft. Benton	79	17	46	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Gold Butte	70	12	43	0.01	0.60	1.59	38	3.65	4.71	77
Harlem	83	14	51	0.33	2.05	1.17	175	4.77	3.63	131
Havre	79	14	49	0.02	0.52	1.29	40	2.11	4.40	48
Malta	78	23	53	0.00	1.44	1.41	102	3.81	4.36	87
Shelby	76	16	47	0.12	0.81	1.15	70	3.55	3.68	96
Turner	77	22	47	0.02	0.22	0.94	23	2.30	3.19	72
Valier	69	20	48	0.23	1.53	1.43	107	3.62	3.74	97
NORTHEAST										
Culbertson	79	11	49	0.00	0.00	1.38	0	2.26	4.06	56
Glasgow	77	23	50	0.00	1.36	1.14	119	3.50	3.69	95
Glendive	80	20	51	0.06	0.49	1.64	30	4.00	4.84	83
Jordan	79	18	48	0.00	2.96	1.47	201	4.85	4.78	101
Plentywood	78	9	46	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Scobey	78	6	46	0.00	0.00	1.22	0	1.81	3.48	52
Sidney	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Wolf Point	82	10	48	0.00	0.64	1.17	55	1.48	3.81	39
CENTRAL										
Cascade	69	15	45	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Flatwillow	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Great Falls	74	17	47	0.01	1.21	1.97	61	3.96	6.36	62
Harlowton	72	19	52	0.14	2.78	1.80	154	5.24	5.15	102
Helena	73	25	50	0.05	0.95	1.31	73	3.00	4.44	68
Lewistown	74	17	46	0.00	1.77	2.04	87	4.96	7.29	68
Melstone	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Roundup	78	18	50	0.18	3.81	1.81	210	7.19	5.07	142
Stanford	75	14	46	0.00	1.36	2.18	62	4.99	6.62	75
White Sulphur Spr	69	16	45	0.48	1.23	1.70	72	M	M	M
SOUTHWEST										
Anaconda	64	21	45	0.25	1.46	1.59	92	5.22	5.98	87
Belgrade	71	21	46	0.05	1.70	1.96	87	4.78	6.61	72
Bozeman MSU	72	24	48	0.24	2.76	2.79	99	8.44	9.23	91
Butte	65	23	45	0.09	1.05	1.48	71	2.83	5.23	54
Dillon	66	24	47	0.12	1.61	1.73	93	3.29	4.60	72
Ennis	M	M	M	0.10	0.71	1.79	40	3.54	5.68	62
Wisdom	60	18	41	0.23	1.19	1.36	88	M	M	M
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Billings	76	24	50	0.04	3.35	2.30	146	6.46	7.49	86
Gardiner	66	22	48	0.12	0.40	0.99	40	3.92	4.16	94
Hardin	83	18	53	0.60	3.05	1.82	168	5.67	5.81	98
Livingston	70	18	46	0.18	2.61	2.22	118	6.43	6.69	96
Rapelje	76	17	48	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Red Lodge	63	17	46	0.85	4.52	3.77	120	M	M	M
SOUTHEAST										
Baker	75	15	47	0.02	1.57	1.87	84	5.03	5.61	90
Broadus	82	21	50	0.06	2.36	2.08	113	M	M	M
Ekalaka	74	21	46	0.61	2.54	2.46	103	6.15	7.32	84
Miles City	78	24	51	1.12	2.72	1.89	144	5.15	5.41	95

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.

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